



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

TAMIL LANGUAGE AND CULTURE WEEK

- WHEREAS: The Tamil community of Georgia has made significant contributions to our state's diverse culture and population, including preserving and promoting peace, togetherness, and the rich heritage of the Tamil language; and
- WHEREAS: Members of Georgia's Tamil community have achieved immense success and developed instrumental partnerships with their fellow residents, while simultaneously honoring their heritage and sharing the Tamil language in the course of their daily lives; and
- WHEREAS: Across the state, the culture and language of the Tamil community have impacted many facets of life, including arts and culture, heritage preservation, health care, education, entrepreneurship, and philanthropy, among others;
- WHEREAS: The Tamil language is central to Tamil identity, and is recognized as one of the world's longest-surviving written and spoken languages, dating back more than 2,500 years. The Tamil language is widely spoken in southern India, Singapore, Sri Lanka, as well as many communities around the world; and
- WHEREAS: The Tamil language is the 20th most common language, spoken by approximately 76 million people globally, including many Georgia residents; and
- WHEREAS: During January, members of the Tamil community celebrate Pongal, a harvest festival spanning four days. Tamil Language and Culture Week provides an opportunity to share the culture of the Tamil community with Georgia citizens and to recognize centuries of Tamil traditions; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim January 8-12, 2018, as TAMIL LANGUAGE AND CULTURE WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 5th day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley
CHIEF OF STAFF